

Preface

The purpose of this manual is to provide the authoritative doctrine by which the Army combat service support (CSS) system as part of the national-theater system supports the conduct of operations at all echelons and across the full range of military operations. This manual provides the basis for subordinate CSS doctrine, training, leader, organizational, and materiel development during the post-Cold War era.

The intended audience of this manual is threefold: combat and combat support commanders, to provide a more universal understanding of how CSS is organized and provided; CSS commanders and staffs, to institutionalize the integration of CSS into the total Army mission; and students, to provide a broad knowledge of the CSS structure and how it works.

Although the manual addresses CSS at the strategic level in support of the combatant commander, it focuses on operational and tactical CSS as executed by the Army-in-the-field.

The goal of Army CSS is to enable the commander to execute his mission and sustain the force. The doctrine in this manual is a major component of the Army's overall doctrine as described in FM 100-5, Operations. FM 100-10 is the Army's capstone manual for combat service support of all Army forces, sister services, and multinational forces. It explains how Army CSS elements support combat, combat support, and other CSS forces in conducting combatant strategies, campaigns, major operations, battles, and engagements in war, and military operations other than war activities in conflict and peacetime.

Joint Publication 1-02 defines combat service support as the essential capabilities, functions, activities, and tasks necessary to sustain all elements of operating forces in theater at all levels of war. As used in this manual, CSS includes numerous functions and activities required to ready a force for operations, deploy it to its intended operational area, support it during the duration of its mission, and to redeploy it when the desired military end state is achieved. It includes the fictional areas of supply, transportation, maintenance, combat health support, personnel support, and field services. Also, besides supporting an "operating force" that may be joint, multinational, and/or interagency in nature, Army CSS may involve providing support to civilians, such as refugees, disaster victims, or members of other agencies.

Users of this publication are encouraged to recommend changes which will improve its clarity and utility. Changes and comments should be forwarded to the Commander, US Army Combined Arms Support Command, ATCL-CAL, Fort Lee, Virginia, 23801-6000, using DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms).

Unless otherwise stated, whenever the masculine or feminine gender is used, both men and women are included.